

Application No. 10/063,972

**Remarks**

Applicants thank the Examiner for his careful consideration of the application.

Claims 1-29 stand rejected.

*A request for a one-month extension of time is attached, bring the period for response to January 13, 2005.*

**Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102**

Claims 1, 2, 4, 6-24 and 26 are rejected under 35 USC § 102(e) as being anticipated by Yu et al (U.S. Patent 6,652,691).

Claim 1 has been amended to include the limitations of claim 3. Claim 30 has been added and includes all the limitations of claim 5 in independent form. Claim 16 has been amended to include the limitations of claim 25. Claim 31 has been added and includes all the limitations of claim 27 in independent form. Claims 3, 5, 25, and 27 should be allowable as the primary patent used to reject the claims as obvious was commonly owned by Xerox at the time of invention, and this application was filed after November 29, 1999. See Applicant's response to the Examiner's rejections of claims 3, 5, 25, and 27-29.

Claims 2, 4, 6, 9-15, 21, and 22 have been canceled.

Claims 7, 8, 17-20, 23, 24, and 26 should be allowed if claims 1, 16, 30 and 31 are allowed as claim 8 depends from claim 1, claim 7 depends from claim 30, claims 23, 24, and 26 depend from claim 16, and claims 17-20 depend from claim 31.

**Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103**

Claims 3, 5, 25, and 27-29 are rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being obvious over Yu et al (U.S. Patent 6,652,691).

The Yu et al. patent that the Examiner used for these § 103 rejections falls under the exception in § 103(c) regarding commonly owned subject matter. The subject matter of the Yu et al. patent and the present application were commonly owned by, or subject to an obligation of assignment to, Xerox Corporation at the time the invention was made.

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Therefore, the Yu et al. patent should not be used as prior art. Therefore, claims 3, 5, 25, and 27-29 should be allowable over the Yu et al. patent.

Amended claims 1 and 16 and new claims 30 and 31 should be allowed. The limitations of claim 3 have been incorporated into claim 1. The limitations of claim 5 have been incorporated into claim 30. The limitations of claim 25 have been incorporated into claim 16. Finally, the limitations of claim 27 have been incorporated into claim 31. As noted above the rejections to claims 3, 5, 25, and 27 were based upon art that was commonly owned at the time of filing. As claims 1, 16, 30, and 31 now include the limitations of these claims, these should be allowed.

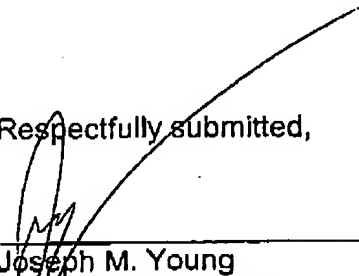
Claims 28 and 29 should be allowed as they have been rewritten to depend from claim 31, and claim 31 should be allowable.

#### Conclusion

The undersigned Xerox Corporation attorney hereby authorizes the charging of any necessary fees, other than the issue fee, to Xerox Corporation Deposit Account No. 24-0025. This also constitutes a request for any needed extension of time and authorization to charge all fees therefor to Xerox Corporation Deposit Account No. 24-0025.

If the Examiner has any remaining questions or issues to address after this paper. The undersigned will be happy to discuss any further Examiner-proposed amendments as may be appropriate.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Joseph M. Young  
Attorney for Applicants  
Registration No. 45,248  
Telephone (585) 423-4554

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Attachment (Request for Extension of Time)